



# THE VIEW FROM SAN RAMON

Volume 29, Number 5

January 2013

## *Money Matters at Every Stage: A Guide for Women Who Want to Expand Their Investment Knowledge*

*Presented by Diane Woodward,  
Certified Financial Planner*

*Tuesday, January 22; 7:00 PM*

*Alcosta Room  
San Ramon Community Center*

*Refreshments Served—Bring Your Friends!*

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*(Details on page 4)*

#### **AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

## 2012–2013 Board

### CO-PRESIDENTS

Stella Hadjimarkos  
Betsy Hoffmann

### IMMEDIATE PAST CO-PRESIDENTS

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Nancy Southern

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~ OPEN ~

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Renaë Buckser

### CO-VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

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Julie Gin  
Susan Walker-Christensen

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Millie Kessler

### TREASURER

Claire Mailhiot

## AAUW San Ramon Information

### Websites:

Branch Website: <http://www.sanramon-ca.aauw.net>

WebMaster: Isabel Lau

Association website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

CA website: [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org)

**Address:** San Ramon AAUW

P.O. Box 336, San Ramon, CA 94583

**Email:** [aauwsr@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsr@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** San Ramon University Women/AAUW

## Appointed Officers & Standing Committees

### ART & WIND FESTIVAL CHAIR

Debra Marconi

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lois Kamoroff

### HOSPITALITY/FELLOWSHIP COORDINATORS

~ OPEN ~

### NEWSLETTER

Marsha Froines  
Carol Lombardi

### PUBLIC POLICY

Susan Beyerle

### PUBLICITY

~ OPEN ~

### LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Sydney Allison  
Cindy Alpert  
Sally Blackwell  
Pat Campbell  
Pauline Nolte  
Sally Scholl

### TECH TREK COORDINATOR

Laurie Dennen

### TELEPHONE TREE

Renee Coles  
Lois Kamoroff

### MORE OPEN POSITIONS:

BYLAWS/BRANCH POLICY

COMMUNITY & INTERNATIONAL

DIVERSITY

EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE

~ (Contact a co-president for information.) ~

## Presidents' Pen

Happy New Year to all of our members!

We hope December brought to you the perfect mixture of social events and quiet time. Some of us attended the Holiday Brunch at Jeanne Benedetti's festively decorated home and had a jolly good time socializing with members and their significant others. We thank Jeanne for being a most gracious hostess, Janice Colby for organizing this Cork 'N' Fork-sponsored event, and all the members who helped.

Thank you to everyone in the branch who supported our Silent Auction & Boutique Gala. The Local Scholarship Committee put together a most successful evening. Every member who donated something (auction item, artisan craft items, food, and time) or asked friends to donate an item contributed to the evening's success and, of course, generous bidders made the evening a financial hit. The process was smooth to the point that it looked effortless, which means it was perfect! We give special thanks to Julie and Susan for heading the committee. What a great evening!

If you have ideas for other types of fundraising events, please contact any member of the Scholarship Committee or any board member. We are currently contemplating a wine tasting event, an idea submitted by member Cheri Ng.

Looking ahead, we are recruiting for the 2012-2013 officers. We urge you all to think about what role you can play. Many positions need volunteers, and one should be just right for your interests and talents. If you aren't able to take on a big responsibility right now, perhaps you and a friend (or two) could co-chair together. Most AAUW job descriptions lend themselves to easy job-sharing.

Here's to an active 2013!

Stella Hadjimarkos, Co-President with  
Betsy Hoffmann

### Happy January Birthdays

Arlene Chang	1/01
Linda Mendonsa	1/14
Jill Gahl	1/15
Stella Hadjimarkos	1/16
Sandy Cline	1/17

## Public Policy

### Avoiding the Fiscal Cliff Where AAUW Stands on Outcomes

For several years now, AAUW has advocated for common-sense budget policies that promote fairness and fiscal responsibility. As an organization, we believe that any outcome to the current debate must

- Focus on job creation;
- Be balanced in its approach to spending cuts; and
- Include additional revenues.

AAUW supports returning to the Clinton-era tax rates for high-income earners while continuing the current rates for the middle class. This policy will ensure a balanced approach to deficit reduction without creating devastating results for America's middle class. Additionally, AAUW strongly prefers that Congress avoid further extensions of the payroll tax cut holiday, which breaches Social Security's guaranteed funding stream and forces the program to rely on transfers from the U.S. Treasury's coffers, setting a problematic precedent that may undermine Social Security's long-term solvency.

Our member-adopted [Public Policy Principles](#) support "public budgets that balance individual rights and responsibility to the community." These are policies that further the principles of fairness and fiscal responsibility, ideas that are not mutually exclusive.

As always, AAUW strongly advocates that all members reinforce its position on fiscal responsibility by being a Two-Minute Activist and [contacting our members in Congress](#). Now is not the time for political posturing and partisan gamesmanship. As American citizens, we ALL will be negatively impacted in one way or another if a resolution is not agreed upon before the end of 2012. Going over the cliff is not an option. Hold Congress accountable.

Susan Beyerle, Public Policy Chair

**The easiest way to get what you want is to help others get what they want.**

**Deepak Chopra**

## Program

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### **Money Matters at Every Stage: A Guide for Women Who Want to Expand Their Investment Confidence**

**Featuring Diane Woodward,  
Certified Financial Planner**

**Tuesday, January 22; 7:00 PM**

**Alcosta Room  
San Ramon Community Center  
12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon**

**Refreshments Served  
Bring Your Friends!**

Today, more women than ever are responsible for their financial well-being, and the financial well-being of their families. But women often face unique financial challenges that can impact their ability to achieve financial security. That's why it's so important that, no matter what life stage they're in, women know how to save, invest, and plan for their future. Our featured speaker is Diane Woodward, CFP<sup>®</sup>, an independent Certified Financial Planner<sup>™</sup> Professional, and owner of Oak Tree Wealth Management. Diane is a registered representative with and securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC.

*Editors' Note: Although the last sentence in the above paragraph is grammatically incorrect, it is the proper, required legal disclosure.*

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## **Coming in February!**

### **She's All That! Conference for Middle-School Aged Girls**

Saturday, February 9  
9:00 AM–3:00 PM

San Ramon Valley High School, Danville

### **Expanding Your Horizons STEM Career Day for Girls Grades 6–8**

Saturday, February 25  
Diablo College, San Ramon

### **Volunteers Needed!**

Watch for Future Announcements

Rena Buckser, Vice-President, Programs

## **Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW**

### **Presents**

### **Dawn Shaughnessy**

**Thursday, January 17**

**7:30 PM**

**Alcosta Room**

**San Ramon Community Center**

**Free Lecture**

**Public Is Welcome**

Dawn Shaughnessy, a well-known group leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, will present a layperson's address about the new element "Livermorium." Dawn heads the LLNL team that discovered six new elements on the Periodic Table, the heaviest elements found to date. One element, Number 116, was recently named "Livermorium" for the scientific laboratory and the city of Livermore. Last March, Dawn was inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame for her scientific accomplishments.

The Livermore team worked in collaboration with a team of scientists in Russia. One of the most difficult things about discovering a new element is that it often lasts for only a few seconds to less than a second, so it takes a keen eye to decipher what occurs in the detector.

## Local Scholarship

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### Silent Auction Gala & Holiday Boutique A Big Success!

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who came and helped make this year's Silent Auction Gala & Gift Boutique such a successful and fun event. With your support, we raised **\$6,600**, which will fund six \$1,000 scholarships to Cal High and Dougherty Valley High seniors and to Renaissance Scholars at Cal State University East Bay.

We'd like to thank everyone who donated items for this gala evening and our members, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and family who came and helped make this event so special.

Listed below are local businesses and members that generously donated certificates, gift cards, items, or services. **We encourage our members to patronize the following businesses and let them know you are from the San Ramon Branch of AAUW:**

Amber Bistro; Amici's East Coast Pizzeria; Bay Books; Beach Blanket Babylon Revue; Black Angus; Blackhawk Auto Museum; Bridges Restaurant and Bar; Café Art Dublin; Café Attila; Carl's Junior; Cheesecake Factory; Chili's Restaurant; Chuck E. Cheese; Clementine's; CoCo Cabana; Concannon Vineyards; Costco; Country Waffles; CVS Pharmacy; Dairy Queen; Daphne's; Domenico's Deli; Dublin Iceland; Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl; Eddie Papa's; English Rose Tea House; Esin Restaurant and Bar; Faz; Fidelity Investments; Forbes Mill Steakhouse; Frankie Johnny & Luigi Too; Giuseppe's Pasta and Grill; Golden Skate; Home Depot; Hopyard Grill & Ale House; Hyatt House, San Ramon; J. Hettinger Interiors; John Youngblood; Jules (Pizza); Julie Gin; Julie Raetz (Lia Sophia); Just a Little Something Gift Shop; Katy's Korner; KFC; Koi Palace; New Danville Bowl; Luna Loca Mexican Restaurant; Ma Jolie; Maria Maria Mexican Restaurant; Marriott Hotel, San Ramon; McDonald's; Mimi's Café; Nation's; Navlet's Nursery; Omnibus Organizing; Orient Express; P.F. Chang's; Pasta Primavera; Patricia Leong; Chow's Restaurant; Peet's Coffee and Tea; Peking Delight; Pete's Brass Rail and Car Wash; Pho #2; Piatti's Restaurant; Role Players Ensemble Theatre; Los Panchos; Ruggie's; Sachi Sushi; Sally Scholl; San Ramon Golf Club; Sideboard Coffee House; Stan Luguero, Golf Pro at Tri-Valley Golf Center; Starbucks; Stella Hadjimarkos; Sweet Tomatoes; The Brass Door; Three Brothers from China; Trader Joe's; Valley

Children's Museum; Whole Foods Market; Yogurtland; and Zachary's Pizza.

Many AAUW members helped make this event a big success. We thank our member vendors Sydney Allison, Victoria Bissell, Laurie Dennen, and Julie Raetz. We also thank the participating interest groups for their beautiful theme baskets. Thank you to Marsha Froines for creating the flyers for our event and sending out a timely reminder to our members, to Elaine Francisco for staffing the hospitality table, and to Lucy Weed for printing our bid sheets.

In addition, we want to extend special thanks to the following members and their spouses for their donations and help: Beth Allen, Barry Campbell, Kandy Fitch, Marsha Froines, Ralph Gin, Diane Griffiths, Stella Hadjimarkos, Sherri Hedman, Betsy Hoffmann, Isabel Lau, Debbie Marconi, Leslie Lipp Meyer, Mary Venkat, Chuck Christensen, and Lucy Weed.

### Frozen Cookie Sale Update

Thank you for supporting our cookie sale fundraiser. We have made \$425 so far. We have one box of chocolate chip peanut butter and chocolate chip cookies available for buyers. Each box is \$16. If you would like to purchase any cookies, please contact Julie Gin.

Julie Gin and Susan Walker-Christensen, Co-Chairs Committee Members: Sydney Allison, Cindy Alpert, Sally Blackwell, Pat Campbell, Pauline Nolte, and Sally Scholl

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## Membership

*“The San Ramon branch of AAUW promotes equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and scholarships. We build relationships among local women and support our purpose through community engagement, events, activities, and educational programs that enrich our lives.”*

The paragraph above is our San Ramon AAUW Branch Mission Statement. AAUW has been working to change access and promote equity for women and girls for over 130 years. With a new year comes renewed hope and anticipation of opportunities and changes we can make in ourselves and in the world around us. What changes are you going to make this year?

The new year offers several events that support AAUW’s mission. We start off 2013 with “Money Matters at Every Stage: A Guide for Women Who Want to Expand Their Investment Confidence” on Tuesday, January 22. February brings participation with two programs— “She’s All That” on February 9 and “Expanding Your Horizons” on February 25. Our membership is encouraged to support both of these programs with our time; volunteers are needed.

Look for two stimulating programs in March and April, both featuring admirable women.

San Ramon AAUW is delighted to report that we have more than 100 women (and one man) in our branch. Our branch is only as strong as our membership. With many active members, we can accomplish so much more. Please continue to help us grow by sharing information about our branch with friends, neighbors, colleagues, and coworkers. Please invite them to our events. Membership is open to anyone who has earned at least a two-year college degree and supports our mission. You do not need to be a member to attend a program.

Margie Goldware and Isabel Lau,  
Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

### AAUW Member Spotlight

**Starring: Renu Deshpande**

Birthplace and other places I’ve lived: Born in India, lived in Bangalore until age 27; moved to the United States in 1998, lived in Chicago and upstate New York before moving to California in 2000. Lived in Santa Rosa area and Bakersfield, moved to San Ramon in 2006.

Education: Junior College degree in Physics, Chemistry, Math, Biology from MES College Of Science, India, 1988; Bachelor degree in Medicine and Surgery from

Mysore Medical College, India, 1995; Post-Graduate Diploma in Ophthalmology from Bangalore University, India, 1998; M.D. from the University Of California, Irvine School Of Medicine, 2003.

Spouse or Significant Other: None.

Children: Two daughters—Saatvika is 15 and a sophomore at Cal High; Saadhana is 13 and an eighth grader at Iron Horse Middle School.

Significant Mentor or Hero, and Reason: Dr. Robin Lowitz, Director of Jewish Community Free Clinic, for being an inspiration and a constant source of support and friendship.

Current and Previous Employment: Full-time primary care and urgent care physician at Bay Valley Medical Group; staff physician at San Ramon Regional Medical Center in San Ramon and Valley Care Medical Center in Pleasanton.

Current Interests/Pastimes: Cooking, reading journals, seeing movies, singing Indian classical music, and traveling (domestic and international). I also volunteer at the Livermore Hindu Temple Health Advisory Clinic.

Memorable experiences/adventures: I snorkeled at Australia's Great Barrier Reef in 2009.

Accomplishments: The best is yet to come!

Something that might surprise people: I love to sing even though I don’t have a very melodious voice.

*Member Spotlights are collected and edited before submission to the newsletter editors by Elaine Baldwin.*

**When I’m old I’m never going to say, “I didn’t do this” or “I regret that.” I’m going to say, “I don’t regret a damn thing. I came, I went, and I did it all.”**

**Kim Basinger**

## AAUW Funds

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### Legal Advocacy Fund

Happy Holidays!

Thank you for supporting LAF. Your generosity has enabled more than \$100,000 in case support and funded 15 LAF Campus Outreach Grant programs this year! If you plan to make end-of-year gifts, please consider donating to LAF so we can continue to break through barriers for women and girls next year.

#### AAUW Accepts New Pay Discrimination Lawsuit

Last week, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to support the lawsuit *LeBlanc v. Trustees of Indiana University*. Virginia LeBlanc is the former director of the Hudson and Holland Scholars Program at Indiana University, a scholarship program that primarily serves African American students. LeBlanc filed a complaint in federal district court against Indiana University, claiming gender and pay discrimination after allegedly facing resistance when she tried to resolve the pay disparity internally. Her case is not yet scheduled.

#### Discount on New Book Authored by Anita Hill

Last year, AAUW co-sponsored a summit in New York City about workplace sexual harassment that featured Anita Hill. Anita Hill's book, *I Still Believe*, published by Feminist Press, includes the speeches from the summit as well as additional material. Because AAUW was a co-sponsor of the event, AAUW members can receive a special 50 percent discount when ordering the book directly from the publisher on their website at [www.feministpress.org](http://www.feministpress.org). Use the discount code ISBAH50212.

#### Stop Street Harassment Book Is Out In Paperback

Two years ago, LAF Program Manager Holly Kearn published a book entitled *Stop Street Harassment: Making Public Places Safe and Welcoming for Women*, and she gave many talks on the subject to AAUW members at state conventions and branch meetings. Her book is now available in paperback for the affordable price of \$15 and would be a great gift for the young women in your life.

#### The Invisible War Available on DVD

The documentary *The Invisible War*, an award-winning film about military sexual assault that features several LAF-supported plaintiffs, is now available to rent from Netflix.

*Editors' Note: The above information can be found in its entirety in "LAF Express" dated December 2012 on the national website.*

Jeanne Benedetti, AAUW Funds Vice-President

## Glossary

(Graphics removed to conserve file size)

### National

**National Girls Collaborative Project:** A consortium of 14 regional collaborative projects that brings together local organizations that commit to inform and educate girls to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

**Career Development Grant:** These grants support women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance their careers, change careers, or re-enter the work force.

**National Conference for College Women Student Leaders:** An annual conference of college women sponsored by AAUW that brings women campus leaders around the country together to learn skills such as civic engagement, advocacy, career planning, and life balance.

The time is always right to do what is right.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Interest Groups**

**GAME NIGHT**  
**First Saturday of Month**  
**Saturday, January 5; 7:30 PM**  
Hostess: Chris White

Questions? Contact Lucy Weed

+++++

**LUNCH BUNCH**  
**Second Tuesday**  
**Tuesday, January 8; 11:30 AM\***  
**Note Special Date Due to New Year Holiday**  
Chili's 830-5115  
3150 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon  
Join us this time for another tasty lunch and fun conversation! Please RSVP to Marsha by Sunday, January 6 so she can make a reservation. If you would like to be a part of this group but are not yet on our e-mail list, contact either  
Marsha Froines  
Linda Mendonsa

+++++

**CHINESE MAH JONG**  
**First Tuesday and Third Thursday**  
**Note Special Date**  
**Tuesday, January 8; 7:00 PM**  
Hostess: Debbie Marconi

**Thursday, January 24; 7:00 PM**  
Hostess: Diane Griffiths

Please RSVP to the hostess.  
If you have questions about this group, contact  
Beth Allen

**Interest Groups**

**DAYTIMERS**  
**Wednesday, January 9; 9:30 AM**  
Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont  
Admission: \$3.00  
Start the year off right with an inspiring visit to a monarch butterfly over-wintering site. Discover the amazing migration of these tiny creatures and how they survive the long cold season in our eucalyptus trees.  
We will carpool to Fremont to visit the butterflies and the farm, and then have lunch somewhere.  
Meet at CVS/Marketplace at 9:30 AM to carpool. (Let me know if you can drive.)  
RSVP to Chris White

+++++

**TRAVEL GROUP**  
**Saturday January 12; 7:30 PM**  
G'day, mates! This month Travel Group heads south to Australia and New Zealand. Please join us for a very special presentation, which will include the cities of Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney; Alice Springs and Uluru in the Outback; Cairns, Cape Tribulation, Port Douglas, and the Great Barrier Reef in the north, and Tasmania in the south of Australia. In addition, we'll cruise up the east coast of New Zealand from the South to the North Island of that lovely country.  
Our presenters will include Chris White, Jane and Mike Young, Renee Coles, Dall and Pat Barley, Bernie Silva, Lucy Weed, and Carole and Keith Nakanishi. They traveled together on a tour conducted by Overseas Adventure Travel (OAT) in October 2012.  
Travel Group programs are open to AAUW members, their spouses, friends and significant others. We'd love to see you at our events this year! Because refreshments are served, **please respond positively to our event's hostess if you will be attending.**  
Rena Buckser  
Anne Hayden





**Interest Groups**

**TUESDAY NIGHT BRIDGE**  
**Third Tuesday**  
**Tuesday, January 15; 7:00 PM**  
 Hostess: Pat Barley

RSVP to hostess is required by Friday, January 11.  
 Questions? Contact Chris White

+++++

**WALKING GROUP**  
**Saturday, January 19; 9:00 AM**  
 Meet at the Bollinger Park and Ride at 9:00 AM to carpool to Lafayette Reservoir for an easy, 3-mile walk. Estimated end of hike: about 11:30 AM. \*Bring four quarters.\*  
 Let us know you are coming, and we will wait for you.  
 Diane Griffiths  
 Lois Kamoroff

+++++

**READING SOCIETY**  
**Third Monday**  
**Monday, January 21; 7:30 PM**  
 Elaine Baldwin will review *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erick Larson.  
 Hostess: Sally Scholl

RSVP to Sally. If you have questions, contact Cheri Ng

+++++

**CORK 'N' FORK**  
 We gather to enjoy great food and excellent company. For more information, contact Janice Colby

**Interest Groups**

**FOURTH FRIDAY FLICKS**  
**Friday, January 25**  
 Monthly Organizer: Leslie Lipp Meyer

We meet on the Fourth Friday of each month to enjoy a movie chosen by the Monthly Organizer. E-mail the Monthly Organizer if you are interested in joining us. If you would like to receive these e-mails, please contact Chris White

+++++

**WANNA GO (BUT NOT BY YOURSELF?)**  
 E-mail me and I will let the group know you are interested. Group members who are also interested will contact you to schedule your excursion!  
 Marsha Froines 828-5707  
 msfroines@att.net

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**JANUARY 2013**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 7:30 PM Game Night Chris White
6	7	8 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Marsha Froines <hr/> 5:00 PM Board Meeting Stella Hadjimarkos <hr/> 7:00 PM Mah Jong Deb Marconi	9 9:00 AM Daytimers to Ardenwood Farm Chris White	10	11	12 7:30 PM Travel Group Anne Hayden
13	14	15 7:00 PM Bridge Pat Barley  Newsletter deadline	16	17	18	19 9:00 AM Walking Group Diane Griffiths
20	21 7:30 PM Reading Society Sally Scholl	22 7:00 PM “Money Matters at Every Stage” Program Rena Buckser	23	24 7:00 PM Mah Jong Diane Griffiths	25 Fourth Friday Flicks Lesley Lipp	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**SNIPPETS**

If you have a Snippet item (family events, career changes, etc.) that you would like to share with branch members, please contact Marsha Froines. **This column depends on member contributions.**

We extend our deepest sympathies to Margie and Stu Goldware and their family on the loss of Margie's father December 25 due to complications from his brain tumor. He died peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. Margie and Stu are grateful that December 25 is not a holy day on the Jewish calendar.

**Save the Dates**

- February 9: She’s All That! Conference, San Ramon Valley High School, Danville
- February 25: Expanding Your Horizons Workshop, Diablo College, San Ramon
- April 20: AAUW CA Annual Meeting, Sacramento
- June 9–12: AAUW National Convention, New Orleans